GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6837
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
ECO-TOURISM
B.K. PARTHASARATHI

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Is eco-tourism economically viable in India" appearing in the Times of India dated February 23, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct any study on the possibility of economic viability of eco-tourism in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the new National Tourism Policy, 2002, greater emphasis has been laid on eco- tourism whose parameters it has been stated should be broader than those of nature tourism alone. It must help in eliminating poverty, in ending unemployment, in creating new skills, in enhancing the status of woman, in preserving cultural heritage, in encouraging tribal and local crafts and in improving overall environment and facilitating growth of a more just and fair social order.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) & (e) Does not arise